

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Notes on Soviet Troop Units in
Neustrelitz, Wittenberg, and Zerbst

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1. NEUSTRELITZ (154), 20-24 February 1950

a. Zierkerstrasse Kaserne: On Soviet Army Day, a parade, reviewed by
an armored colonel in Mercedes [redacted] consisted of fourteen companies
with about 1,150 EM and 150 officers and NCO's. Armor at this barracks
includes twelve T-34/85, three JS-1, and two JS-3 tanks. 50X1-HUM

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b. Strelitzerstrasse Kaserne: Approximately 1,000 men, equipped with
vehicles [redacted] Training took place with five 57 mm AT guns,
four 80 mm and two 120 mm mortars, and a [redacted] number of 76.2 mm guns. 50X1-HUM

c. Kaserne on the road to Altstrelitz: Eleven buildings are occupied.
Approximately 600 artillerymen were observed. [redacted] the
installation has more than twenty 76.2 mm guns, but only five were seen. A
general is in residence on the Neuen Friedrich Strasse. 50X1-HUM

2. PERLEBERG [redacted]

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A new AT unit with vehicles [redacted] arrived from LUDWIGSLUST
(T53) by rail in early February. Of this unit, [redacted] 200 men, twelve
57 mm and six 76.2 mm AT guns. The unit has been training with troops of
a tank regiment installed in the local barracks.

3. WITTENBERG (E37), [redacted]

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a. The city appears to be held by a Guards tank division. [redacted]

estimates the WITTENBERG set-up as follows: headquarters in a former hotel
on Lutherstrasse now known as Haus der Einheit; in Beseler Kaserne, one
heavy tank regiment with more than forty JS-type tanks and about twenty
SU-85, one medium tank regiment with T-34/85's, one 57 mm AT battalion, and
one maintenance unit; in Flak Kaserne, one, or perhaps two, medium tank
regiments, two rifle regiments; in Taunentzien Kaserne, one signal battalion,
divisional headquarters, divisional hospital, various labor units, and troop
canteen (i.e., post exchange); at the airfield, 200 SAF technicians. 50X1-HUM

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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b. Baseler Kaserne: About 2,000 men, some belonging to a recently arrived AT battalion. Sheds north of the barracks appear to hold about sixty T-34s and twenty-five SU type tanks. Southern sheds contain ten SU-85. Other sheds may hold other SU's and T tanks. * Parked vehicles:

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c. Flak Kaserne: About 5,000 men, all wearing black straps/red piping, some with armored insignia. Tank troops daily participated in tank driving and tank firing practice while rifleman received instruction in light arms outside the barracks.

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d. Luftwaffen Kaserne: Most of the officers are stationed at this barracks. Thirty-five officers were seen at pistol practice in the yard. Signal troops were laying cable and drilling along the Elbe. Total barracks strength is about 1,500 men.

e. The airfield, south of town, was occupied by two PG-2's used for liaison duties.

4. ZERBST

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a. [redacted] one tank battalion with about forty T-34's; one SU battalion with about twenty SU-85; one heavy AT battalion with 85 mm guns; one rifle battalion of 600 men; 200 transportation troops; 100 men belonging to a repair company.

b. All ZERBST barracks are full. The majority of troops wear tank or artillery insignia. Most of the troops are 17-19 years old, officers averaging about 22 years.

c. Weapons training was in progress. Cleaning and engine instruction took place with four SU-85 and eleven T-34's. Four 85 mm AT guns were also used for training purposes. Three T-34's were used for driving tests near the airfield. Motorized rifle troops trained with MG's, rifles, and machine pistols, marching to the grounds near the airfield in 36-man platoons. Truck driving instruction was given on vehicles [redacted]

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d. The airfield is occupied by jet aircraft. [redacted]

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Comment: This generally unsatisfactory report is so sketchily composed at this and other points that it is virtually impossible to wrest additional and probable details from its original text.

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